

THE RIO NEWS.

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY.



VOL. XVIII.

RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 20TH, 1891.

NUMBER 3

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of LONDON, PARIS and NEW YORK.

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EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION OFFICES:—
79, Rua Sete de Setembro.

RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 20th, 1891.

Owing to the meagre telegrams received from Chili, and to the official control of the telegraph lines, it is impossible to learn the exact situation in that country. It is evident, however, that the revolution has been steadily gaining ground, and that it has secured a most advantageous position for a successful contest. There appears to have been but little fighting up to the present moment, owing perhaps to the fact that the people in the coast cities are favorable to the revolution, and are therefore spared by the fleet. Several of these coast cities have already fallen into the hands of the revolutionists, while Iquique and others are closely blockaded. Valparaiso is still held by the government forces, who are using every means of repression against those suspected of sympathy with the insurgents. At Santiago President Balmaceda is busily fortifying the city and in raising an army.

We have no doubt whatever as to the good intentions of the constituent assembly in many of the amendments made to the government draft of the constitution, but it must be said that some of them will certainly lead to prejudicial results. The adoption of provisions creating a centralized form of government, followed by others granting rights to the states of the most extreme character, are sure to create conflicts of authority in the near future which must have serious results. For instance, the restrictions placed upon the clergy and religious orders as electors, opposed by the almost unrestricted measure of local self-government granted to the municipalities, which will inevitably be construed as a right to enfranchise these classes for local elections. Then take the provisions for immigration, the national government exercising supreme control, and having important interests at stake, but without an acre of public land at its disposal. This grant of public lands to the states is a serious mistake, for it will lead to such a multiplicity of immigration laws, that nothing but injury to the nation at large can result. These measures and the crude provisions for taxation and division of revenue, must inevitably lead to embarrassment in the future, and when the conflict begins between the privileges and monopolies granted by the provisional government and the rights reserved by the states and municipalities, grave results may be anticipated.

It is about time to inquire as to what is to result from the saturnalia of paper money that is raging in Rio de Janeiro. The exchangeable value of Messrs. Barbosa and Mayrink's currency has reached a point of depreciation that has become sensible to the consumers, for prices are advancing and there still hangs over the market the further issues of this token paper, the result of which may be disastrous to all connected with foreign markets. The company organizers and speculators will make their thousands of contos de reis as merrily as ever and sing hosannas to Allah Barbosa and Mahommed Mayrink, but the trade and commerce and the laboring classes are not likely to join in this insane burning. To us it appears that there is an indifferently concealed scheme under all this appearance of immense wealth and activity. We believe that the minister of finance still resents the coolness with which London bankers received the new government, and that Sr. Barbosa is persuaded that he can show St. Swithin's Lane how independent of it

Brazil has become, for at least so long as printing presses can be bought and hired. With his gold duties to meet foreign requirements it appears to Sr. Barbosa that how much or how little may be issued does not interest the Treasury; but, even if this supposition is not entirely without foundation, what effect does the minister suppose will result to Brazil's foreign trade? And what must be the result to these hundreds of companies organizing, that are impossible of accomplishment without foreign money? No sane person would attempt to raise money in Europe for companies, the shares of which have been artificially advanced to the utmost absurdity, and, moreover, the incorporators of which are not ashamed to declare that their profits have been simply enormous, e. g., Sr. Sebastião Pinho with his profits in one year of £2,225,000 stig. We certainly should not like to approach a London banker with a proposal to lend money to companies that have been saddled at their birth with such incumbrances. The speculators in Rio have, by their overweening conceit and ignorance of the very science of speculation, completely shut the door to foreign aid, and unless this be induced to come, there can only be one result; that which has so recently been seen in the Argentine Republic. The company promoters and their satellites may continue to turn over enormous sums in paper and grow rich in proportion as more currency is issued, but bread, and boots, and clothing will become dearer and dearer, wages must be advanced, or strikes ensue, and the merry speculator of to-day may be a sad-faced fugitive to-morrow.

From all accounts there is a very serious crisis in the cabinet which threatens a total dissolution. Gen. Benjamin Constant insists on his resignation in a letter to the chief of state on the 18th, and his withdrawal has been finally settled. The reason given is broken health, but it has long been known that the minister has not been wholly in accord with his colleagues on various questions. All things considered, it must be confessed that Gen. Benjamin Constant has not met the expectations of the public. In addition to this, rumors were current yesterday that a crisis existed because of Gen. Deodoro's refusal to sign a certain concession in which some of his ministers seem to be strangely interested. This morning the *Gazeta de Notícias* says that the whole ministry has resigned and mentions the names of possible successors. The modifications, however, are so great, not only in men but even in a reorganization of departments, that we can hardly credit the rumor. To reorganize the administrative system of the government just on the eve of the organization of a new government under the constitution, would be so inexcusable and impolitic that we can hardly believe that Gen. Deodoro would consent to it.

The disgraceful scenes which continue in the neighborhood of the Exchange and Rua da Alfândega, caused by the stock gamblers who collect there during the day, ought to awaken the authorities to the necessity of adopting some law prohibiting the obstruction of any public street, or the entrance to any public building. For a time the municipal authorities seem to have been impressed with the idea that these people were engaged in a lawful business, and had a perfect right to occupy the Rua da Alfândega, and a part of that street was accordingly closed to freight traffic, to the great prejudice of carters, porters, and the business houses of the neighborhood. They blocked up the entrances to the banks and business houses in that part of the street; they interrupted the transit of business men, and they made the whole neighborhood a standing disgrace to the city. Quarrels and fights were of daily occurrence, and finally complaints began to appear of the depredations of pick-pockets. When the disorder became so great that no further excuse could be found to cover it, the police interfered and moved the crowd to the space between the Post-office and Exchange. Some difficulty was encountered in doing this, but the police finally succeeded. And now they are again called upon to protect the public once more against this crowd of vagabonds and gamblers, who have not only blocked up the entrance to the Praça and its reading-room, but have actually taken possession of the corridors in the post-office. On Saturday last we found it very difficult to pass through this office because of the stock gamblers and loafers who gathered there to

escape the sun. Later on a squad of policemen was sent there to clear the corridors, and had to use force to accomplish the purpose. It is clear that unless some effective measure is adopted, the police will be called upon every day to prevent the closing up of the Post-office, and the practical closing of the Praça. The only remedy is to forbid the obstruction of the streets, and to compel the organization of a "stock exchange" for the accommodation of these people. If they are making the fortunes claimed, they can easily afford to rent a building for their special occupation.

According to telegrams received here yesterday from London, Brazilian securities had suffered a heavy decline on receipt of the news that the Brazilian government proposes to transfer its financial agency from the Rothschilds to a Brazilian bank. The very first effect of this news was a decline of the 839 loan from 79 to 70, a decline so marked and serious that the minister of finance can not help seeing the disastrous results in store for the policy which he has adopted. If he has believed that Brazilian credit abroad is due wholly to its own merits, he can now see how completely he was mistaken. The good credit of this country in London has been principally, if not wholly, due to the sagacity of the Rothschilds, and no unknown corporation, even if backed up by the Brazilian government, can ever inspire the same confidence. It will be known, if not known already, that the new bank and financial agency is simply the creation of unscrupulous speculators, whose operations and outside risks may at any moment involve the institution in serious difficulties. While the minister may ride rough-shod over the opinions and feelings of the people here, he can not do the same with the investors abroad. He is probably now aware that it is one thing to deceive paper money and new banks, while it is quite another to inspire the confidence necessary to maintain the credit of the country abroad.

CONSULAR INVOICES.

On the 12th inst. the United States consular-general at this port received the following telegram in reply to the protest signed here against the new declaration required of shippers as to the name of the person from whom the merchandise was purchased:

WASHINGTON, 12th.

DOCKERY, Consul, Rio:

Refuse to certify invoices of coffee only when name of purchaser is willfully withheld.

WASHINGTON.

In our opinion this leaves the question practically where it was before the new form of declaration was adopted. There is and can be no object in refusing to comply with the new regulations, as there is no duty on coffee in the United States, and no fees to escape by withholding the information required. The contention here is simply to the effect that it is impossible to comply with the regulation, unless the name of some factor, or intermediary, be accepted. Nearly all the grades of coffee shipped are made up of mixtures, or by blending, and with the result that any sample may comprise coffees from half a dozen sources, all partly or entirely unknown to the shipper. And even were it possible to obtain the names desired, it could only be done with much trouble and through the aid of native dealers, and as this prevents no infraction of the tariff laws of the United States, and is a practical employment of foreigners, under compulsion, to execute the laws of that country, it ought not to be insisted upon.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES

January 12.—Art. 62 of the constitution framed by the government was substituted by a provision that states shall be governed by the constitutions and laws that they may make, if these respect the constitutional principles of the union. Art. 63 was modified so as to give the public lands to the states; the general government being allowed to make use of only such part of these lands as may be required by the public service. There was a tie vote on the provision prohibiting the states from rejecting currency or issue of banks authorized by the general government. In conformity with the rules, the president declared that this provision would be put to the vote again at the next sitting. As several members claimed that an amendment limiting the prohibition to the rejection of legal money had been carried by a majority of three votes, the president threatened to resign if his decisions were not respected. The government's proposal to place the federal district under the control of the federal government was substituted by that of the special committee which provides that said district shall be governed by its municipal authorities. A proposal to abolish the national guard was rejected by 32 votes to 68.

Arts. 67 and 68 regulating municipal organization were substituted by a provision, presented by the Paid delegation, which imposes only one condition on the self-government of municipalities: that of assuring their self-government in the administration of the local affairs. Deputies Lacommeir Godofredo and Moniz Freire, who spoke on the subject of Sections I and II of Part IV of the constitution, both declared themselves in favor of striking out the provisions restricting the political rights of the clergy.

January 13.—Deputy Mariano presented a resolution signed by 39 members calling the attention of the government to the expediency of postponing the state elections until at least one month after the adoption of the federal constitution. The provision in regard to the currency, on which there was a tie vote at the previous sitting, was again put to the vote and was adopted, the amendment restricting the prohibition being rejected. Deputy Lauro Saldes spoke in favor of a perfect federal system. He says that those who think that the revolution is complete are mistaken. The revolution must continue till the country is regenerated. He opposes female suffrage and considers the clergy hostile to the republic. He was followed by Deputy Barbosa Lima, who thinks that the logical sequence of the separation of church and state is perfect religious liberty and consequently he opposes all the intolerant provisions in the constitution. He is opposed to female suffrage.

January 14.—Deputy Francisco Vêga spoke against the resolution relating to state elections, whose passage, he says, will be equivalent to a vote of censure on the government. If the government pays no attention to the suggestion contained in that resolution, congress will lose prestige; if, on the other hand, the government accepts and follows the suggestion, it will thereby confess its incompetence to manage the affairs of the country. The resolution is an attempt to revive parliamentary government, under which, however, it must be added, never was there a vote of censure conceived in such harsh terms. Deputy José Mariano denied that the resolution was hostile to the government. Congress, it is true, had voluntarily restricted its present task to the forming of a constitution; but, nevertheless, it was neither to be expected nor desired that the representatives of the nation should be inert and dumb as to what is occurring in the country. On the contrary, they would be recreant to their most sacred duty, if in an important conjuncture like the present, they should fail to come loyally to the government's assistance by informing it of the feelings and aspirations of the nation they represent. The resolution is not a suggestion, but advice offered in a friendly spirit and in discharge of an obligation they had a right to expect. The resolution was carried by a vote of 72 to 75, the ministers voting against it. Deputies Lacerda Coutinho, Francisco Barbosa and Barbosa Lima spoke in favor of the political rights of the clergy. While the last named was speaking he was interrupted by Deputy Sampaio Ferraz.

Sampaio Ferraz.—"Do you believe that the separation of church and state could have been accomplished, if the people had been consulted before?"

Barbosa Lima.—"I do."

Sampaio Ferraz.—"Well, I do not."

January 15.—A motion signed by 83 members empowers the president to request the government to have another building prepared for the sittings of congress. It suggests for this purpose the former building of the Chamber of Deputies and for the sittings of the Senate the former senate building. At a suggestion from Deputy Coelho e Campos the debate on Sections I and II of Part IV of the constitution was closed by 66 votes to 66 in spite of the vigorous protest of Deputy Costa Machado, who complained that the right of discussion was curtailed with a scandalous and despicable violence, unequalled even in the worst days of parliamentary government. The provision depriving the clergy of political rights was adopted. A provision abolishing all existing titles and distinctions was also adopted. The provision requiring religious marriage to be preceded by the civil ceremony was struck out by a vote of 77 to 68. The celebration of the ceremony was made gratuitous. To Art. 72, § 5, which gives a secular character to cemeteries, was added a provision allowing every religion to make use of its funeral rites in relation to persons professing that religion, in case such rites be not contrary to law and public morality. At this point the voting was interrupted by the want of a quorum and its continuation was consequently postponed to the following day.

January 16.—Deputy Francisco Badurá presented a resolution asking the government for information in regard to mining rights granted to Dr. Theodorino Souta in Minas Geraes. He advises the people to make legal resistance to the encroachments on their property made by persons who have obtained grants from the government. Senator Aquilino do Amaral moved to insert in the journal a protest, signed by himself and two other representatives of Mato Grosso, against the dismissal of the governor of that state. Deputy Antonio Azevedo opposed the motion and caused to be read a petition of 141 citizens of Santa Anna de Paranahyba memorializing congress on an act of usurpation committed by the governor of Goyaz. The following changes were made by congress in the government draft of the constitution: The provision excluding Jesuits from the country and prohibiting the establishment of convents was struck out by a vote of 94 to 62. Anonymous editorship is prohibited. In the provision securing the inviolability of correspondence were inserted the words "postal and telegraphic." In the provision relating to the death penalty, the words "in political crimes" was struck out and a clause inserted excepting military legislation in time of war. The free exercise of moral, intellectual and industrial professions is guaranteed, and patent rights are secured. Lotteries are abolished. No Brazilian citizen can be deprived of his civil or political rights on account of his religious belief, or ecclesiastical functions, nor will he therefore be exempt from the performance of any civic duty. No tax can be collected except in virtue of a law for that purpose. The holding of more than one remunerative office is prohibited. The alleging of religious belief to evade duties established by law

will be punished by loss of political rights. Able-bodied public employes can not be retired from service on pensions. Several provisions relating to the rights of military officers were adopted. Among the proposed changes rejected is that establishing female suffrage. Deputy José Mariano moved by congress should be sent at once to the engraving committee. Deputy Retulima spoke on Part V of the constitution.

January 17.—There was read a message from the Congress of the United States congratulating the people of Brazil on having assumed the powers, duties, and responsibilities of self-government. Deputy Bernardino de Campos moved a vote of thanks to the Congress of the United States. After a speech from Deputy Lauro Müller, Deputy Martinho Prado took the floor and vigorously denounced the squandering of the country's resources by the government. It is time, he says, for the original republicans to unite and renew the agitation for a republic, which has not yet been established. He proposes to amend the constitution so as to deny approval to the acts of the government making grants of land and guarantees of interest. He was answered by Senator Ramiro Barcellos who asserts that congress has no right to insert such a provision in the constitution. Deputy Epitácio spoke against the proposal of Deputy Nilo Peçanha to regulate the state elections by the law of Jan. 9, 1881, until a new electoral law shall have been framed by congress.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

- The miliary fever has reached Jundiáhy.
- Rio Grande do Sul received 22,524 immigrants in 1890.
- Fresh beef is selling for 700 reis per kilo in Pará.
- The municipal council of Pará has resolved to establish a poor-house.
- The governor of Pará proposes to cause a new map of the state to be made.
- The corner-stone of the abattoir at Santos was laid on the 11th.
- In a recent fight between swordsmen and laborers in Santos several persons were wounded.
- Cattle are bringing good prices in Rio Grande do Sul, and breeders are jubilant.
- In Bahia there are 63 candidates for the state senate and 138 for the chamber of deputies.
- The *Ayudaban* and *Cunahara*, on their return from the United States, reached Bahia on the 13th.
- At Ribeirão Preto, S. Paulo, a man was beaten, shot and stabbed to death by six Portuguese colonists.
- At Santos, on the 8th, disturbances were caused by soldiers en route for southern ports on the steamer *Dietrich*.
- The Melhoramentos de São Paulo Co. is paying from 30 to 140 reis per kilo for rags, 30 reis for corn husks, and 30 reis for old paper.
- The United States and Brazil Mail SS. Co. has been relieved of a fine imposed on it by the municipal council of Pará.
- The new water-works have been tested at Campinas. The result is reported to be favorable. The water is said to be clear and abundant.
- On the 10th inst. the municipal authorities of Niterói decided to tax dogs 25 each. A very good measure, and worthy of imitation in Rio.
- In S. Paulo some laborers employed on the English road attempted to kill engineer Abreu. In a fight with the police one of them was killed.
- It is stated that many persons in Juiz de Fora have been promised decorations with the order of Christopher Columbus if they will work and vote against the opposition ticket.
- In consequence of the blunders committed by the acting governor of Minas Geraes, Dr. Dias Fortes was obliged to resume his place as governor of the state.
- In Pirassununga, S. Paulo, a company is organizing for the purpose of building a college. It is said that half the capital has been taken, but the amount is not stated.
- At Caxambu, in consequence of a quarrel between a pyrameter of the Sapucahy railway and the foreman of a gang of workmen, the former fired a revolver at the latter, killing him instantly.
- In D. Pedro, Rio Grande do Sul, a band of robbers had a fight with a detachment of the 5th regiment of light cavalry. Three of the bandits were killed and the rest captured. The police delegate was wounded.
- The governors of Pará and Mato Grosso are calling for lenders for opening a road between Itaituba or Santarém and Cuyabá. Tenders will be received up to June 20, and 7 per cent. interest is guaranteed on the capital invested in the road.
- The cannibal in Minas has been interviewed. He says he ate human flesh because he was hungry; that he does not like its flavor; that the sight of the dead bodies caused him a slight shudder; but that he feels no remorse and sleeps soundly.
- Ex-Deputy Diogo de Vasconcellos, editor of the *Jornal de Minas*, says he will not organize a ticket of candidates for the legislature of Minas Geraes until there is some guarantee for a free vote. Diogo may perhaps have to wait a good long time.
- The people of S. José de Tocantins, Minas Geraes, a place not far from Gen. Cesário's residence, are said to be getting very tired of adhering to the provisional government. Their discontent has recently been displayed by tearing up and throwing away the census bulletins.

—A telegram from Pará says that the commander of the *dez* has succeeded in saving his steamer.

—It is stated that in Sacramento, Minas Geraes, the municipal judge has issued a warrant for the arrest of 8 electors who refuse to vote for the government candidates.

—A telegram from Pará on the 16th says that the Amazon company's steamer *Saba* struck on the Tapacassá rocks, both vessel and cargo suffering considerable damage.

—It is reported that Gen. Camillo Costa has resigned the governorship of Rio Grande do Sul and that he will be succeeded by Gen. Vasquez, chief of police of the city of Rio de Janeiro.

—They say that Gov. Portella was hissed on his recent electioneering trip to Campos. Gov. Portella in the rôle of Balançola is just too funny for anything. So, down with the dictatorship—in Chili!

—Let that Santos letter look to its laurels. On Dec. 11th a registered letter containing 40¢ left the station of Moanerat on the Cantagallo railway en route for the city of Rio de Janeiro and has not been heard from since. The Santos time may be beaten yet!

—On the 9th Gen. Portella, governor of Rio de Janeiro, went to Cape Rio to see his picture "inaugurate" at the municipal chamber there. To avoid any chance of disaster Gen. Portella took the band of the Rio de Janeiro police corps along with him, in this manner securing harmony.

—The soldiers who caused the disturbance at Campinas continued their disorderly behavior on reaching Uberaba, Minas Geraes, where they are to be stationed for a while before proceeding to Goyaz. The people of Uberaba are much alarmed and are arming to defend themselves.

—At a largely attended opposition meeting in S. Paulo a committee was appointed to take such action as may be deemed necessary in the organization of the state. Among the members of the committee are Senator Rangel Pestana (republican), ex-Deputes Conde do Pinhal and Moreira de Barros (liberals), and Col. Rodolpho (conservative).

—As presiding of the census board at Santa Maria Magdalena, in the neighboring state of Rio de Janeiro, there was appointed a man who, it is said, not only does not exist but actually never did exist. We thought we perceived an inclination to count imaginary population, but, until this story reached us, we were unaware that imaginary census-takers were expected to do the counting.

—A telegram received at Pará from this city states the custom-house employés at that port would, by order of Gen. Ruy, receive 10 per cent. additional pay. Another telegram from the same source states that the congressmen of the state expect to obtain from congress, as soon as it enters upon its legislative functions, an appropriation for the Pará navy-yard, and that the minister of the navy had promised to make the improvements required. The cutting of timber for the navy-yard, it is added, would soon be authorized.

—Bahia, not to be out-done by Ceará, has a family just as worthy of being sent to France as the Ceará family, of whom we gave an account last week. At the head of the Bahia family is an old man who is 126 years of age and whose wife is 114 years old. They have had 39 children, of whom 37 are still living. They have 121 grandchildren and 168 great-grandchildren. The great-grandchildren we suppose to be numberless, for our informant says he was unable to count them. The members of this little family are the sole inhabitants of Lagoa d'Alleluia (Hallelujah lake).

RAILROAD NOTES

—A brakeman fell from a train on the Mogiana road and was run over and killed.

—On the 16th inst. the contract for the construction of the Norte de S. Paulo railway was signed here.

—Baron de Jaguará has resigned the presidency of the board of directors of the Paulista railway company.

—A rotten cross-tie recently caused the derailing of a train on the Bragança railway. Two persons were slightly injured.

—It is reported that Gen. Glycerio has promised the Pará congressmen to spend 200,000\$00 in extending the Bragança railway.

—Between Amparo and Jaguará, on the Mogiana railway, a special train carrying the shareholders of the road ran over and killed a man.

—It appears that the directors of the Paulista line are renewing their attempt to purchase the English road. They seem determined to have it.

—In a collision between trains on the Central line, near Belém, one of the engine-drivers was killed and 4 employés and three passengers were injured.

—The governor of Pará is investigating the state of the Bragança railway, with a view to deciding whether it will be advantageous to the state to sell that road or not.

—The board of directors of the Paulista railway company has declared that it had no intention of purchasing the English road unless it could obtain from the government a guarantee of interest on £7,000,000.

—It is stated that the Companhia Geral has given an order for 4,000,000\$ worth of rolling stock and other railway material. This order embraces, among other things, 315 cars of different classes and 45 Baldwin locomotives.

—According to a telegram published in the *Correio do Povo* on the 14th, the proposal by the Paulista company to purchase the S. Paulo railway will be based on such a price that the net revenue of the English company will suffice to meet interest and sinking fund on the capital employed in the purchase.

—A telegram to the *Correio do Povo*, published on the 18th, states that the employees of the S. Paulo railway company had applied for increased pay, because of the increased cost of living and of house rent.

—From February 1st the Paulista railway company will make considerable reductions on the tariff cost of passages, varying from 30 per cent. on certain first-class tickets to 6 per cent. on certain of the second-class. It is to be hoped that the tariff for goods will not be overlooked.

—Accidents are getting alarmingly frequent on the S. Paulo railways. Besides those already recorded we note here one on the English road near Pilar, in which a man was severely hurt, and one on the Mogiana road, near Jaguará, in which serious injury was done to a one-year-old child.

—We are assured that to three "dear ones" (*Apêditos*) of the Rio Grande (do Sul) deputation there will be made a concession for rail laying and construction works over about 500 kilometers of railways in Rio Grande do Sul. N. B.—There was no public competition. —*Jornal do Commercio*, Jan. 19th.

—On the 12th inst. a contract was signed by the Sapucaia railway company and the governor of the state of Rio de Janeiro for a prolongation of the Santa Anna railway section from Passa Três to a junction with the Botafogo and Angra dos Reis section at Mangaratiba, and also from Passa Três to Marrecas on the boundary with the state of S. Paulo.

LOCAL NOTES

—The notaries public have protested against the decree establishing the Torren's registration.

—The news company recently established here claims to have 20,176 agencies for the sale of newspapers. On paper, of course!

—The *Correio do Povo* is too bad! On the 13th it says the Mint in 1890 experimented 2,190 times in *parala*, and purposely made the last letter look like a *y*!

—A decree, dated on the 11th, revoked that of May 2nd, 1890, which dismissed Sr. Carlos de Laet from his professorship at the ex-Pedro II college, and places him on the pension list.

—On the 10th the *Jornal* says that Sr. Meleiros, late editor of the *Triunfo*, is going to Europe. Sr. Meleiros has had enough of journalism in Brazil apparently, or has realized enough to retire!

—The Empresa Industrial de Melhoramentos no Brazil has been authorized by the municipal council to open a tunnel between Botafogo and Laranjeiras. It will begin in Rua Guanabara and end in Rua Farani.

—On the 10th a local colleague says a happy man has secured from the provisional municipal government a thirty-years' monopoly to establish markets in the S. Christovão, Botafogo and Engenho Novo districts of this city.

—The minister of finance has taken pity on the messengers of his department and permitted them to change their "tail-coats" for jackets. The heat must have been dreadful to have induced a treasury messenger to forego his tail-coat.

—Decree No. 2245, of the 9th inst., grants mining rights in Minas Geraes to Bachelor José Cesar de Faria Alvino. Is it possible that our friend General Cesar Alvino, commander-in-chief of the department of the interior, is the fortunate man?

—The time-honored republican, Dr. Aristides Lobo, says that the present danger of the republic consists not in Sebastianist (monarchical) reaction, but in the prolongation of the dictatorship, which, at a period when there should be a return to legal forms, continues to exercise absolute sway.

—We do not know the source of their information, but the local press on the 14th announced that Sr. Sebastião Pinho had closed his books for 1890, and verified his profits to be 27,000,000\$; two millions and a quarter sterling is undoubtedly a handsome year's work.

—The Archbishop of Bahia, on the 12th, addressed a long letter to congress asking it not to persecute the church. If the constitution, he says, wounds the religious fibre of the Brazilian people, there will result therefrom a permanent conflict, which everyone should consider the greatest of calamities.

—Two midshipmen on the corvette *Niteroi*, which put back here yesterday, found they had pressing business that called them to their homes in Minas Geraes, and asked for three months' leave. Admiral Wandenkolk replied: "You must complete the voyage; had not the vessel returned the business of interest would have been deferred."

—On the 14th it was announced that Gen. Benjamin Constant, minister of public instruction, telegrams and post-offices, had resigned, on account of his health, and that Gen. Bocayna would take the portfolio for the present. At a cabinet meeting on the 17th, however, it was resolved to invite the former to remain in the cabinet, because of an impending reorganization of the same.

—We are inclined to applaud the move for giving women votes—and of course seats in congress. One of the ladies might be made minister of finance, for instance, and if the minister's dressmaker was "dunning" her there would be a new issue of money; but is this much worse than Gen. Barbosa's policy which meets Gen. Mayrink's "dunning" in precisely the same manner?

—A bottle of rum was smuggled into the military hospital on the night of the 12th, and created a terrible row. The receivers of the contraband all got drunk, beat and threw the crockery at the other patients, and some of these escaped from the hospital. The surgeon in charge finally ordered blank cartridges to be fired at the rioters, and a detachment of the 7th infantry arriving peace was secured. Would it not be well to discharge a few of those fellows from the hospital and put them on duty again?

—Gen. Ruy declines to re-establish the special tariff in Matto Grosso.

—The government is about to establish a railway bureau. That is how the money goes.

—The police had to interfere on Saturday to put a stop to a fight between gamblers in stocks.

—A *Constant Reader* requests us to recommend to him a work of fiction. How will the recent census suit him?

—It has been decided that the public lands belong to the states. Are there any that Gen. Glycerio has not disposed of?

—Col. Graga, who was arrested some time ago for congratulating the *Triunfo* on its articles against the Argentines, has been placed on the retired list.

—When the Norte e Sul navigation company works it out that its dividend is at the rate of 12.142 per cent. per annum, we are beginning to think either we are crazy, or somebody else is.

—Dr. Afílio Cesar Borges, Barão de Macaúbas, died in this city on the 17th inst. The late Barão was a prominent pedagogue, and the author of a number of text books for schools and colleges.

—In the opinion of Dr. Aristides Lobo the conduct of the Rio Grande delegation to congress "is that of beasts roasted in strange and anarchist fry."

—You may say what you please, but it was not a bad idea to call that company "Water and Light." The stock will be watered and the dividends light, when it is fairly in operation.

—Gen. José Simão has received a telegram from Visconde de Pelotas congratulating him and his political friends for defending states' rights, free elections and the most important interests of the country.

—A gentleman has obtained a concession for two years to search for gold, silver and other metals on three hills within the city limits of Rio. If he finds nothing on these hills we suggest his trying the Bolsas, or the open-air exchange.

—On the 18th the *Jornal do Commercio*, with very pardonable pride, calls attention to the fact that its number of the day covers 18 pages. It certainly shows a wonderful change from the *Jornal* of 20 years ago, and we trust our colleague will find it necessary to print 18 pages, all advertisements (the journalist's dream), every day before long.

—The Polytechnic students who have been up to São Paulo on the customary annual excursion, are accused of behaving like a gang of rowdies. We trust the report is exaggerated, for it will be more than the institution can stand to have members of its faculty running jockey clubs and stock-gambling enterprises, and its students going out to "punt the town red" in São Paulo.

—Perhaps the fault is entirely due to our lack of comprehension, but how is it that the constituent assembly can declare in one article that no sworn member of a religious order or community can be inscribed as an elector, and then in another that "no Brazilian citizen can be deprived of his civil or political rights on account of his religious belief or ecclesiastical functions"? To prohibit a priest from occupying a seat in congress, or from registering as a voter, is certainly depriving him of his political rights.

—The ministry met last night in conference at the Itamaraty palace, from 8 to 11 o'clock. The ministers of war, public instruction, and finance did not appear, the last sending by his secretary a letter to the general-in-chief announcing that he was ill. At the meeting it was decided, among other questions, that the decree relative to the Obras Hydraulicas company would not be signed, and that Gen. Benjamin Constant would continue to direct the public instruction department, because there would shortly be a new cabinet organized. —*Gazeta de Notícias*, Jan. 18th.

BIRTH.

At Laranjeiras, on 15th January, the wife of Henry C. Sturdy, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

GUNTON.—At Southampton, on December 9th, 1890, EARTH ELEANOR, aged 5 years; on Dec. 10th, FREDERICK CHARLES, aged 2 years; and on Dec. 18th THOMAS WELBY, aged 14 months; children of Thomas G. Gunton, of Chester, England, and formerly of Rio de Janeiro.

FINANCIAL NOTES

—The Nord-Oeste do Brazil railway company was formally organized on the 10th inst.

—The Geral railway company has called for 20\$ per share payable on the 19th. This call represents 200,000,000\$ in cash.

—It is said that the state of Parahyba is negotiating with the Banco dos Estados Unidos for a loan of 1,500,000\$.

—All the shares the Banco União de S. Carlos have been taken, 20,000 of them in the town of S. Carlos do Pinhal, Conde do Pinhal taking 10,000.

—The "Banco Cacionador e Mercantil" proposes, with a capital of 2,000,000\$, to aid the speculator.

—The capital for the "Banco Fisco" 5,000,000\$, has been subscribed privately at the Banco Sul-Americano.

—The Massas Altimienticas company has decided to increase its capital from 100,000\$ to 1,000,000\$. Macacora manufacture requires more capital than was at first considered sufficient.

—There is to be floated in S. Paulo a company called the "Agenciadora e Intermediadora de Negocios," which will operate in S. Paulo and Paraná. Amount of capital not stated.

—The minister of agriculture has asked the Treasury to let him have \$18,000 for six months' expenses of the commission of engineers that will go to the international railway conference in Washington.

—The firm of Macfarly & Co., of Campinas, has been converted into a joint-stock company. Baron de Ataliba Nogueira is to be the first president of the board of directors. The capital is 2,000,000\$.

—The "Internacional de Transportes a Domicilio" company, capital 400,000\$, was formally installed on the 10th inst. Ocean and domestic express business are the objects of the new company.

—On the 17th the meeting of the shareholders was finally held and it was unanimously determined that the Banco Nacional should join the Banco dos Estados Unidos in the formation of the Banco da Republica.

—The "Industrial e Mercantil de Olaria," bricks and tiles, company, capital \$ and the "Commercio e Industria Botafogo" company, general dealers, capital 600,000\$ were formally installed on the 17th.

—The "Seda Brasileira" company, capital 600,000\$, comes to fill a lacuna. Brazil produces raw silk in such quantities that the new company will relieve the consumer of the manufactured article of all dependence on the foreigner.

—On the 17th the "faportadora de Planos e Musicas" company was formally organized. The shareholders will combine music with dividends, but there appears to be no *maestro* on the directory; a serious oversight.

—The "Brazil Federal" insurance company, capital 30,000,000\$, will be incorporated by Sr. Mayrink, Baron Uyer, Mexican minister, and Comendador Luiz Faro. The capital is imposing; the names of the incorporators no less so.

—At the meeting of the shareholders of the Banco União held on the 17th the president stated that the "sympathies" of the Union Bank of London had been obtained and the relations with this institution would be rendered closer.

—The "Geral de Melhoramentos do Maranhão" and the Industrial de Instrumentos de Engenharia, Nautica e Optica" companies were formally organized on the 16th. The former has a capital of 25,000,000\$, the latter one of 600,000\$.

—An application to form an enterprise under the name of the "Petite Banque des Estados Unidos do Brazil" has been sent to the Treasury by the minister of agriculture for information. What has the department of agriculture to do with banks?

—On the 14th the prospectus of the "Melhoramento do Amaraes" company, capital 5,000,000\$, was published. This prospectus, in improvement is promised the state of Autazonas, and a per cent. per annum in gold to the shareholders guaranteed at once.

—It is proposed to organize in S. Paulo a company to be called the Niagara Paulista, with a capital of 1,500,000\$. The purposes of this company are to grow sugar-cane, make and refine sugar, and manufacture lime and alcohol. It will purchase the central sugar mill at Piaçaba.

—The Conde de S. Salvador de Mattosinhos wants an interest guarantee of 6 per cent. per annum on 14,000,000\$ to build a bridge from Rio to Niteroi. The request is so modest and the enterprise so very urgent, that we presume the guarantee will at once be granted.

—The "Prelúdio de Construções Economicas" company, capital 10,000,000\$, will build houses for rent, and also for sale on the plan of partial payments. A purchaser may secure a title to his residence in 15 years by an annual payment of 10 per cent. interest and 5 per cent. sinking fund.

—The receipts of the state government of Pará amounted in October to 381,612\$640. The expenditures amounted to 1,345,466\$796, including 1,027,985\$953 expended in redemption of bonds and payment of floating debt. The cash in the treasury at the end of the month amounted to 524,088\$153, not including the deposits which amounted to 345,283\$800.

—On the 11th inst. the *Jornal do Commercio* mentioned a rumor that an idea had been started among the legislators to declare null and void all concessions, of land, railways, etc., that imply a charge on the nation, which had been granted between September 15th and the date of the assembling of the Constituent Assembly. This report has alarmed some people apparently, for on the 12th an anonymous writer attacks the *Jornal* violently for mentioning the matter. One thing is certain; Congress would be perfectly justified in such action, and the least it can do is to order a most rigorous investigation of every concession granted by the provisional government.

—On the 12th the shareholders of the Jardim Botânico railway decided to increase the nominal capital of the company to 12,000,000\$, by the issue of 10,000 new shares, distributed among the present holders, upon which 150\$ will be called, and the proceeds used to cancel the debenture loan raised to pay the municipality for extending the concession. It was also decided to issue 60,000 deferred shares, which will only receive dividends after provision is made for the contribution to the municipality, 10 per cent. is provided for a sinking fund and a dividend of 8 per cent. paid to preferred shareholders. The sinking fund will be divided whenever 10 per cent. of the capital of the company is accumulated, this being reduced in a like proportion.

—On the 15th in the *Jornal do Commercio* alone appeared the announcements of the following companies:

	capital.
Villa Alto-Mearim.....	5,000,000\$
Peanha and Araxá railroad.....	30,000,000\$
Indaiatuna and Itajaí, agricultural, etc.....	3,000,000\$
Typographia Commercial.....	300,000\$
Tocantins and Araguaia railroad and navigation.....	20,000,000\$
Empresa Industrial do Grão-Pará.....	20,000,000\$
	78,300,000\$

New York		Amer str	Vigilancia.....	..
do	do	Br str	Finanza.....	..
do	do	Br str	Sirius.....	.. %
do	do	Amer lug	Chastrey.....	..
Baltimore	do	Amer lug	Good Tidings.....	\$6000
do	do	Amer bk	Seren.....	..
New Orleans	do	Br str	Rubens.....	..
Havre	do	Fr str	Nardin Fr.....	..
Antwerp	do	Bel str	Levinia.....	..
London	do	Br str	Thames.....	..
Hamburg	do	Ger str	Chitra.....	..
do	do	do	Alberonia.....	..
do	do	do	Palagonia.....	..
Trieste	do	Aust str	Orion.....	..
do	do	do	do.....	..

January 17th, 1890.

BANKS.

MISCELLANEOUS.							
Capital	Capital paid up	Reserve fund	Companies	Dividend paid	Nominal value	Last sale	Closing quotations
400,000	400,000	..	Açre, Colômb. de Vassouras	....	200\$	198 500	
7,000,000	7,000,000	20,000	Cant. e Cia. do Fimense...	4 000 — July 00	200	203 000	
100,000	758,000	..	Camarcas Fluminense...	10 000 — Jan. 99	200	215 000	
300,000	200,000	..	Com. e Cia. do Fimense...	200	210	200 000	
3,000,000	600,000	..	Com. e Cia. do Fimense...	10 000 — Jan. 91	40	58 500	
200,000	150,000	..	Elektro e Fabr. de Cabelos	4 000 — July 00	200	215 000	
100,000	37,500	..	do 2 series...	200	40	...	
12,000,000	4,500,000	..	Empresa de Obras Públicas	10 000 — Jan. 91	200	410 000	
....	550,000	..	do 2 series...	10 000 — Jan. 91	40	340 000	... 350\$000
10,000,000	2,000,000	..	Escadaria de Cal...	10 000 — Jan. 91	40	400 000	
20,000,000	4,000,000	..	Evoca. Fluminense...	....	40	58 000	... 33 000
40,000,000	1,000,000	..	Ind. e Colôn. do Brasil	....	60	...	... 94 000
2,000,000	200,000	250,000	Ind. e V. de Macaé	10 000 — Jan. 91	50	50 000	
5,000,000	5,000,000	..	Melhoramentos no Rio...	6 000 — Jan. 97	200	510 000	100\$000 520 000
1,000,000	3,200,000	..	do do Rio...	100 — Jan. 91	50	60 000	
1,600,000	2,000,000	..	do do S. Paulo	50	50	68 000	... 67 000
1,200,000	1,300,000	..	Nacional de Oleos...	5 000 — Jan. 91	...	130 000	
250,000	5,000,000	..	Serra Real Rural...	10 000 — Jan. 91	40	33 000	32 000 36 000
1,000,000	600,000	..	Serv. Min. do Rio...	6 000 — Aug. 91	150	150 000	
150,000	475,000	..	Phosph. de Cal...	120	55 000	...	
200,000	405,000	..	Saneamento do Rio...	12 000 — Jan. 91	40	59 000	
1,275,000	1,275,000	..	Serv. Municipais...	8 000 — Jan. 91	200	210 000	
4,000,000	1,275,000	45,500	S. Jeronymo Mines...	100 — Jan. 91	120	120 000	
....	720,000	..	do 2 series...	20	44 000	44 500 45 000	
10,000,000	2,000,000	..	Terras Brancas...	3 000 — Jan. 91	60	74 000	... 68 000
....	200,000	..	União...	....	100	...	

